

HONORING ANGOLA'S MEMORIAL  
VFW POST NO. 7205

### HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Angola's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 7205 as they prepare to celebrate their 75th anniversary.

Founded in the wake of the Second World War on May 26, 1946, the Angola VFW post was named after George Anspaugh, a Steuben County native who was killed in the war while serving in the U.S. Navy.

The post, which boasts 178 members and 200 auxiliary members, earned "All American Post" status in 2019 for its community contributions, participation in VFW events and ability to recruit and retain members.

I am inspired by the mission of Angola's VFW, and VFW posts nationwide, to not only help veterans recover from the wounds of war but also to ensure that the national memory of those who served is never forgotten.

From holding a Poppy Drive every year on November 7 to commemorate the end of the First World War to hosting Veterans Suicide Awareness Day to raise proceeds for the Veterans Suicide Crisis Hotline, and more, Hoosiers thank Angola's VFW Post for their work.

This record is testament to VFW Post No. 7205's longevity and achievement, for which Angola, and northeast Indiana, is grateful.

IN RECOGNITION OF REBECCA  
WRIGHT

### HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Rebecca Wright, a student at Windber Area High School, on being crowned the 74th Maple Queen at the Pennsylvania Maple Festival.

A pianist, Rebecca earned accolades at the competition for her performance of "Midnight Rhapsody," including the Anna Ruth Thomas Memorial Talent Award. She also won the Promenade Award and the Interview Award.

As the Maple Queen, Rebecca will represent Somerset County's robust maple industry. Since 1947, the Pennsylvania Maple Festival has been hosted by maple producers from across the region to showcase maple production.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Rebecca and her family on this incredible achievement. As Rebecca commences her service as Maple Queen, I wish her every continued success.

4/23 ANNIVERSARY OF JOSEPH  
STONE'S DEATH

### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the fourth anniversary of the tragic death of Joseph Stone, a U.S. paramedic serving with the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) in Ukraine.

My heart and prayers go out to his family who still feel his absence each and every day.

Joseph Stone was killed on April 23, 2017, when his vehicle struck a landmine in Russian-controlled territory in eastern Ukraine. Born in my district in Milwaukee, he was a courageous young man whose life ended much too soon.

Stone gave his life serving a noble mission: helping those who document the human suffering inflicted by the Kremlin's senseless assault on Ukraine. The mission he served with, established in 2014, monitors implementation of the Minsk Agreements, which were designed to bring peace to eastern Ukraine. It is an unarmed, civilian mission that serves as the international community's eyes and ears on the security and humanitarian situation in the war zone. The SMM operates under a mandate adopted by consensus among the 57 OSCE participating States, including the United States, Russia, and Ukraine.

The tragedy of Stone's death—a direct result of this needless conflict—is compounded today by the continuation of Russian aggression against Ukraine. Recent weeks have seen a dramatic escalation by Russia, which has amassed forces and equipment on Ukraine's land and maritime borders and in Crimea, which Russia continues to illegally occupy. Moscow's actions are accompanied by boldfaced denial that these threatening moves should be of any concern to Ukraine or its friends.

The latest Russian escalation only underlines the crucial role of the SMM and the need to ensure that the mission Joseph Stone died serving can fully carry out its mandate. Moscow currently blocks the SMM from accessing Russia-occupied Crimea. And in parts of Ukraine where the SMM is able to operate, its monitors are harassed, blocked, and threatened on a daily basis by Russia-led forces, who also interfere with the SMM's equipment by jamming UAVs or blinding static cameras.

Madam Speaker, all OSCE states, including Russia, must do everything possible to support the OSCE monitors who, to this day, face unacceptable threats and restrictions as they shine a light on the daily cost of this war. The monitors must be allowed unfettered access throughout Ukraine—including Crimea. And rather than deploying more troops, Russia should be working with the OSCE to help de-escalate the situation, including to support the

deployment of more monitors to prevent further conflict and provocation moves. The mission's efforts will remain crucial in ensuring the international community has full visibility on the Kremlin's malignant actions against Ukraine.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in marking the solemn anniversary of Joseph Stone's death. Let us use this solemn occasion to redouble efforts to work for peace. I also want to use this opportunity to applaud the men and women of the SMM who are still serving today, even as Russia continues to escalate. Their work is a critical part of efforts to restore Ukraine's territorial integrity and ensure respect for its sovereignty.

RECOGNITION OF THE POPE  
FRANCIS PREPARATORY HIGH  
SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM'S 2021  
USA HOCKEY DIVISION 1 NA-  
TIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Pope Francis Preparatory High School boys' hockey team on winning the 2021 USA Hockey Division 1 National Championship. The Pope Francis Cardinals defeated New Trier, of Illinois, 3-0 in the championship game. This win capped a six day national championship tournament in Omaha, Nebraska, where the Pope Francis Cardinals won 6-0, and outscored opponents 48-5.

The tremendous amount of dedication and commitment to excellence was led by Head Coach Brian Foley, who has led the Pope Francis Hockey program for eighteen years. The impressive efforts on the ice was led by goalie Ben Zaranek, with 23 saves that ensured the shutout, and by Brandon Spaulding and Ryan Leonard, that scored the three goals to solidify victory and the national title.

It gives me great pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the entire team, which also includes Matt Hanscom, Jack Moltenbrey, Jake Iby, Ryan Hemenway, Colin Foyle, Evan Phaneuf, Andrew Bolduc, Jack Kennedy, Ryan Shaw, Bryce Russ, Joseph DiMichele, Stephen Rougeot, Jack Turowsky, Matthew Burke, Christopher Calvanese, Ryan O'Leary, Ryan Rhodes, Ben Zaranek, Josh Iby, and Gage Sperlonga. All should be proud of their contribution to this victorious season that furthers the legacy of Pope Francis athletics.

Madam Speaker, the players, coaches, and entire school community should be very proud of their accomplishments. I wish the graduating seniors all the best in their future endeavors and good luck to those who will return for a chance to make another run at the national championship.